CONFIDENTIAL

Department of State EXDIS INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADS-00 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 PA-01
INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 [illegible] SIA-01 SRS-01
/045 W

R 081905Z OCT 80
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5233
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KINGSTON 7584

LIMDIS

E.O. 12065: XDS-4 10-8-90 (LELAWRENCE) OR-M
TAGS: PINT, JA
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH [redacted] b(1) ED

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. OPPOSITION PARTY [redacted] b(1) ED PREDICTS 42 SEATS FOR HIS PARTY. HE IS PLEASED AT THE WAY THE ELECTORAL MACHINERY HAS BEEN PREPARED. VIOLENCE IS EXPECTED BUT THE JLPWILL TRY TO GET ITS VOTERS TO THE POLLS EARLY ON ELECTION DAY. CAMPAIGN FUNDS ARE STILL A PROBLEM. [redacted] b(1) ED PNP HAS ALIENATED THE JAMAICAN ELECTORATE BY ITS ANTI-AMERICAN IMGAGE. END SUMMARY.

3. IN AN OCTOBER 6 MEETING, EMBOFF DISCUSSED CURRENT POLITICAL SCENE WITH JAMAICA LABOUR PARTY (JLP) [redacted] b(1) ED THE OPPOSITION STRATEGIST WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE TURNOUT AND ENTHUSIASM OF THE CROWD AT THE OCTOBER 5 JLP ELECTION RALLY IN DOWNTOWN KINGSTON (WHERE HE INTRODUCED THE PARTY'S CANDIDATES). HE ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE AT 60,000 (OPPOSITION LEADER SEAGA PUBLICLY CLAIMED 150,000) DRAWN LARGELY FROM KINGSTON-ST. ANDREW AND ADJACENT PARISHES. SOME SIXTY BUSES WERE RENTED TO BRING IN SUPPORTERS, AND SOME INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE TOOK PLACE AS THEY PASSED THROUGH PNP NEIGHBORHOODS. THE CROWD, THE CANDIDATES AND PARTY LEADERS BRAVED A DRENCHING [redacted] b(1) ED ENCOURAGED THAT THE RAIN DID NOT AFFECT ATTENDANCE OR DIMINISH ENTHUSIASM. THE JLP DOES NOT PLAN TO HOLD ANOTHR RALLY OF THIS SIZE BECUASE OF THE RISK OF VIOLENCE AS TENSIONS INCREASE CLOSER TO ELECTIONS. HOWEVER, "SECOND-LEVEL" RALLIES OF 15,000-20,000 WILL BE HELD IN PARISH CAPITALS.

4. DISCUSSING WORK ON THE ELECTORAL MACHINERY, [redacted] b(1) ED PRAISE FOR UWI PROFESSOR GLADSTONE HILLS AND THE TWO OTHER NON-PARTISAN MEMBERS OF THE ELECTORAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WHO HAD PERFORMED WITH MAXIMUM IMPARTIALITY. EACH PARTY HAD --IN PART BECAUSE EACH EXPECTED THE OTHER TO DO SO--ATTEMPTED TO EXPLOIT ELECTORAL PROCEDURES TO ITS ADVANTAGE. FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, THE JLP HAS ENCOURAGED SELECTED SYMPATHIZERS TO APPLY FOR POSITIONS AS REPORTING OFFICERS IN CONSTITUENCIES AND PRESIDEING OFFICERS AND POLLING CLERKS AT POLLING STATIONS; TO THE EXTENT THAT THESE PERSONS WERE SELECTED AND NOT SUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGED BY THE PNP, THE JLP AT A MINIMUM HAD PLACED INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD NOT BE MANIPULATED BY THE PNP.

5. [redacted] b(1) EC RECEIVING THE COMPUTER PRINTOUT OF THE VOTERS LISTS SINCE OCTOBER 4 AND EXPECTED TO HAVE THE ENTIRE LIST BY OCTOBER 6. THE ACTUAL PRINTED LISTS ARE BEING DELIVERED NOT BY THE PRESSES, AND AS OF OCTOBER 5 THE LISTS FOR 16 CONSTITUENCIES HAVE BEEN FINISHED. FIFTEEN THOUSAND DUPLICATE REGISTRATIONS HAVE BEEN HANDLED BY INCLUDING THESE VOTERS ON THE LIST FOR THE FIRST PLACE HE OR SHE REGISTERED. HOWEVER, ONLY IDENTICAL NAMES COULD BE CHECKED. [redacted] b(1) EC AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF MULTIPLE REGISTRATIONS WITH VARIANT NAMES HAVE OCCURRED BUT EVEN WITH THE COMPUTERIZED DATA IT WAS TOO TIME CONSUMING TO VALIDATE THESE.

6. THE PROCESS OF SELECTING POLLING STATIONS IS NOT YET COMPLETE. [redacted] b(1) ED RELUCTANCE OF SOME PERSONS TO ALLOW THEIR PROMISES TO BE USED FOR VOTING BECAUSE THEY FEAR OF VIOLENCE. HE ESTIMATED THAT SOME TWENTY PERCENT OF THE POLLING AREAS ARE AFFECTED BY THIS FACTOR, ESPECIALLY IN THE VOLATILE CORPORATE AREA. HOWEVER, EACH PARTY HAD TO AGREE ON THE LOCATION OF EACH POLLING STATION, AND HE EXPECTED THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE RESOLVED WELL BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

7. [redacted] b(1) ED NOT EXPECT ANY MAJOR SURPRISES ON NOMINATION DAY (OCTOBER 14). VIOLNCE IS ANTICIPATED IN SOME AREAS BUT THE SECURITY FORCES WILL BE INVOLVED, AND THE JLP IS PREPARED TO PROTECT ITSELF. THERE IS A SLIGHT CHANCE THAT EACH PARTY WILL REPLACE A FEW WEAK CANDIDATES ON NOMINATION DAY WITH STRONGER ONES IN CLOSE CONSITTUENCIES. THE JLP MAY CHANGE TWO CANDIDATES. WHEN THE REPORTING OFFICER ASKED [redacted] b(1) ED HE REPLIED WITH CONSIDERABLE INTENSITY, "WHERE DID YOU GET THAT INFORMATION?" WHEN TOLD IT WAS LOW-LEVEL PARTY SPECULATION, HE EXPLAINED THAT LAST MARCH HE COMMITTED HIMSELF TO RUN IN [redacted] b(1) ED IF [redacted] b(1) ED DIDN'T WORK OUT. WHILE HE MUCH PREFERRED TO DEVOTE HIMSELF TO COUNTRY-WIDE EFFORTS, [redacted] b(1) ED UNABLE TO RELATE TO THE GHETTO AREAS. HE COULDN'T EVEN SPEAK THEIR LANGUAGE. AS A CONSEQUENCE, [redacted] b(1) ED MANY HOURS PERSONALLY DEVELOPING A PARTY ORGANIZATION IN THE GHETTO AND WORKING WITH GHETTO LEADERS. HE STILL HOPES THAT [redacted] b(1) ED CAN MAKE A GO OF IT, BUT LEFT THE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT HE

NODIS REVIEW

Cat. A - ~~Caption removed;~~ transferred to O/FADRC
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S
Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S

Reviewed by: [signature]
Date: 18 Nov 81

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GDC/MR
REVIEWED BY QB DATE 25 JUN 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 AOS-00 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 PA-01
INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-01 IGA-01 SPRS-01
/045 W

R 021905Z OCT 80 (CCY TEXT-A0128642-UTS182-632)
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5234
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 KINGSTON 7504

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA 11)

WOULD BE CALLED ON TO STAND IN. (COMMENT SUCH A LAST MINUTE CHANGE WILL [redacted] CHANCE TO WIN A SEAT AND OBTAIN A MINISTRY IF HIS PARTY WINS. A MINISTRY WOULD ALSO BE POSSIBLE [redacted] EMO COMMENT)

8. IN A DISCUSSION OF THE US PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES, [redacted] BC TELEVISION HAD INVITED HIM TO A DEBATE WITH [redacted] HE INTENDS TO RESPOND BY AGREEING TO THE DEBATE [redacted] ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE WPJ IS NOT RUNNING ANY CANDIDATES IN THE ELECTION.

9. [redacted] ATTEMPTS TO USE POLITICAL VIOLENCE DURING THE PRE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HE NOTED A NEW MILITANCY ON THE PART OF JLP SUPPORTES, EXPLAINING THAT WHEN THEY HEAR GUNFIRE, RATHER THAN RUNNING AWAY THEY RUN TOWARDS THE GUNS TO SHOW THEY WILL NOT BE INTIMIDATED. ON ELCTION DAY, THE JLP WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO GET ITS WORKERS TO THE POLLS BY ELEVEN IN THE MORNING (POLLING STATIONS OPEN AT SEVEN) IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE CHANCES OF LOSING VOTES AS A RESULT OF VIOLENCE LATER IN THE DAY. THE SECURITY FORCES WILL BE PRESENT AT ALL POLLING STATIONS BUT MANY WILL BE UNTRAINED DEPUTIZED POLICEMAN ARMED ONLY WITH TRUNCHEONS. HOWEVER, BOTH PARTIES AND THE ELECTION OFFICE ARE METEING WITH SECURITY FORCES REPRESENTATIVES TO IDENTIFY THOSE POLLING STATIONS WHERE VIOLENCE IS MOST LIKELY AND WHERE THE SECURITY FORCES SHOULD CONCENTRATE THEIR FORCES.

10. ASKED HOW PARTY COFFERS WERE FARING [redacted] OW AND DEPLETED BY THE LONG CAMPAIGN. MANY CONTRIBUTORS WERE PLAGUED BY SEVERE CASH FLOW PROBLEMS BUT HAD BEEN WAITING UNTIL ELECTIONS WERE CERTAIN GIVE. OTHERS HAD CONTRIBUTED EARLIER IN EXPECTION OF ELECTION IN SEPTEMBER. NEVERTHELESS, [redacted] ONEY WOULD FLOW BECAUSE IT WAS RECOGNIZED HOW CRUCIAL THE GENEAL ELECTONS WERE.

11. COMMENTING ON PNP ORGANIZATION, [redacted] THE RULING PARTY HAD SUFFERED BY THE DEFECTION OF MANY OF ITS MOST EXPERIENCED OPERATORS TO THE JLP. SEVERAL OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN THE BRAINS IN MANLEY'S 1972 AND 1976 CAMPAGINS WERE NOW DOING SIMILAR WORK FOR THE JLP. STILL, [redacted] PNP HAD DONE A GOOD JOB AT GAINING GROUND ON TH OPPOSITION, DOOMING DISCREDITED PNP GENERAL SECRETARY DK DUNCAN AS A EFFECTIVE ORGANIZER, BUT RECOGNIZED THAT DUNCAN HAD AN IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT WHEN HE TRAVELS TO DIFFERNT AREAS OF THE COUNTRY BECAUSE OF HIS REPUTATION FOR BRINGING TROUBLE. THE JLP HAD SOUGHT TO COUNTER DUNCAN BY FORCING HIM TO BE PREOCCUPIED WITH HIS OWN ST ANDREW CONSTITUENCY, BUT HAD NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL.

12. [redacted] PNP HAS MADE A SERIOUS ERROR IN ITS CRITICISM OF THE US. THE VAST MAJORITY OF JAMAICANS ARE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE US. MANY HAVE RELATIVES THERE AND ASPIRE TO GO THERE THEMSELVES. CONSEQUENTLY THE PNP CRITICISM OF CAPITALISM OFTEN FALLS ON DEAF EARS OF JAMAICANS WHO RECEIVED A DIFFERENT IMAGE OF THE US DIRECTLY FROM THEIR CONTACTS WITH THE US. BY CONTRAST, THEY SEE LITTLE BENEFITS FOR JAMAICA FROM CLOSE RELATIONS WITH CUBA AND THE USSR.

13. [redacted] CONFIDENT OF THE PROSPECTS FOR THE JLP. HE CURRENTLY ESTIMATES THAT THE PARTY WILL WIN 42 SEATS OUT OF 60 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EVEN MORE COULD BE WON, BUT HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT NOT TO WIN TOO MANY SO AS TO MAINTAIN A POLITICAL BALANCE. LAWRENCE

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